



REMARKS

In response to the Office Action noted above, Applicant amends Claims 1-4, 6-11 and 13-15 directed to a pet grooming mitt. Applicant also cancels Claims 24-27 directed to a pet grooming brush.

Claims 1-3, 6, 8-11, 13 and 15 were rejected as being anticipated by Myren.

Claim 4 was rejected as being obvious and unpatentable over Myren in view of Kupperman et al.

Claim 7 was rejected as being unpatentable over Myren in view of Livshin.

Myren discloses a body scrubber in the form of a mitt, similar to the present invention, but with many significant differences, including that the reservoir is centered over the palm of the hand of the user. There is no teaching in Myren that the reservoir from the top distal fingertip end of the mitt down to a bottom proximal end at the wrist end of the mitt.

Kupperman et al has an abrasive hand covering and was cited for the concentric circles of cones. However in Kupperman these are no flexible bristles, only randomly placed disks with abrading surfaces protruding up therefrom.

*Applicant did not claim
bristles in claims 4*

Livshin illustrates a hand mitten and was cited for tab 44.

In view of the excellent art cited by the Examiner, the independent claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recited

specifically that the reservoir extends continuously from the top distal fingertip area down to the bottom proximal wrist area of the mitt. This important feature of the present invention, especially in combination with the features noted above, is not found or suggested in any of the art of record, especially Myren. Myren only discloses a partial reservoir which from the drawing Figure 5 therein extends as an oval over the palm area. In fact the text of Myren's specification states at column 4, lines 1-3 that the reservoir 26 is centered over the palm of the user's hand. Moreover, there is nothing in the drawings of Myren to suggest that the reservoir extends continuously from the top of the fingertip area to the bottom of the lower wrist area. The only interior drawing is the transverse cross sectional view of Figure 6, which shows that the reservoir 26 extends only partially across the mitt area, which corresponds to what is shown in the outlined area shown in Figure 5. There is no axial cross sectional view showing how far the reservoir 26 extends from its top to bottom, so it can be assumed that it only extends as shown by the oval area identified as reference numeral 26 in Figure 5 only partially, and not continuously, within the mitt from the top of the fingertip area to the bottom of the wrist area.

The title has also been amended to reflect this continuous extending feature of the reservoir.

The remaining depending claims add such features as the pattern of the nibs comprising a central nib surrounded by a

concentric circle of nibs. The Examiner had cited Kupperman et al., but this patent is an abrasive hand covering using pointed extensions, which if employed in a mitt used to clean a pet animal, would certainly injure the animal. And since the purpose of Kupperman's glove is to abrade, it does not seem logical to make use of these teachings in connection with a mitt to clean a pet animal. That is, there is a basic incompatibility. Since the functions are so completely different it is hard to see how this reference could be combined with any reference in the art of the present invention.

It is noted that the art of record in this application is quite extensive. The lack of teachings showing the novel features of this invention pointed out above is evidence of the unobviousness of the invention as now being claimed.

Applicant has produced a novel mitten for cleaning pet animals. The mitten is simple and effective and incorporates features as described above not found or suggested in the art of record.

Concerning the double patenting rejection over Applicant's issued U.S. Patent No. 6,109,214, Applicant submits a Terminal Disclaimer with the requisite filing fee of \$55.00.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the remaining claims in their amended form are drawn to allowable subject matter, and these claims should accordingly be allowed.

The Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned in
the event that further changes are required to obtain
allowance of this application.

A favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 19, 2002

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